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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 5882.02
Express Mail Label No. EL 779 732 202 US

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Robert B. MALE et al.

Application No. 10/045,953

Filed: January 12, 2002

For: TOOTHBRUSH

Examiner:

Group Art Unit: 1744

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality.

Swedish Patent No. SE324221 (drawings only) is attached. As a concise explanation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), it is provided that this reference describes a toothbrush having a drive mechanism converting rotation of a shaft around its longitudinal axis into rotation of a disc around its horizontal axis, to in turn control the cleaning motion of the bristles.

German Patent No. DE 40 03 305 A1 is attached, with an English translation of the Abstract. As a concise explanation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i), it is provided that this reference describes a drive mechanism for a dental device, such as a toothbrush, using a rotating cam surface to drive a rocker-arm in a reciprocating motion, which in turn drives a cord over a pulley. The pulley is attached to the brush head, thus the brush head oscillates back and forth.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the first office action in this case. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fees are due with respect to this filing.

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However, should any fees be deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415. A duplicate copy of this disclosure statement is enclosed for use as may be appropriate.

Should the examiner have any questions concerning the relevance of the cited references in this disclosure, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Signed at Denver, Colorado, this 23 day of September, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,



Lee R. Osman, Reg. No. 38,260
Attorney for Assignee
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP

USPTO Customer No. 20686

09-25-02

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the enclosed

1. Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) (2 pages);
2. Form PTO-1449 (4 pages);
3. Copy of Cited References;
4. Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail; and
5. Return Card,


relating to the above application, were deposited as "Express Mail," Mailing Label No. EL 779 732 202 US with the United States Postal Service, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C., 20231, on this 23 day of September, 2002.

September 23, 2002

September 23, 2002



Mailer



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